

REACHING FOR BEACH HEALTH: CITIZENS' SOLUTIONS



Lake Michigan Federation
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- Beach closings must be addressed on a community-by-community basis for the greater good of the Great Lakes.
- Focus on implementing real solutions while improving monitoring technology.
- Beach closings are a symptom of a bigger problem.



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Community-By-Community

- Every community is starting from a different point. Communities like Chicago are testing as often as possible, while others aren't testing at all.
- Sources are different in every community. While we get a handle on unknown sources, towns need to get a handle on the sources that they do know about.
- It's a small lake after all. While solutions may differ from place to place, the level of protection accorded the public must use the same, tough standard.



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Focus On the Real Solutions While Improving Technology

- Bacterial pollution from other states may be crossing borders.
- U.S. EPA's Nine Minimum Controls are a good starting point.
- Water conservation practices.
- Infrastructure surveys.



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Beach Closings = Symptom

- The effects of pathogen contamination need further research. Another stressor on already stressed forage base?
- What goes along with bacteria contamination is sewage that depletes oxygen, etc., for aquatic life.
- Beach Health is an opening through which we can appeal to the public about Great Lakes issues of even greater complexity.



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The Lake Michigan Federation works to restore fish and wildlife habitat, conserve land and water, and eliminate toxics in the watershed of the largest lake within the United States. We achieve this through education, research, law, science, economics, and strategic partnerships.



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